

More

What the hell!

Inbox

12:45 AM (15 hours ago)

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

to edwardsm

Ok so I just seen a cartoon comic strip full of bs and using last round of testing results. How the hell is there lead in her water when ALL her levels have barely detected anything. What the deal?!

Marc Edwards

9:34 AM (6 hours ago)

to me

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

When tests showed extremely high lead in her 2nd draw (219 ppb) and 3rd draw (1740 ppb) during the November 2016 sampling, we immediately knew something was wrong. During the worst of the Flint water lead crisis in 2015 we repeatedly tested her water lead levels, and they were always low. In fact, back in 2015 she confirmed to both you and me in writing, that her service line and house plumbing were brand new in 2007 and were lead free (no lead pipe or lead solder).

So where did the lead in her water samples come from?

Over dinner explained, that Scott Smith had told her "lead disappears as water flows to the kitchen tap and you want to sample water closer to the street." Of course, this is a false statement that we have both heard Scott make repeatedly. So in November 2016, rather than following the written VT instructions consistent with legal requirements of the EPA lead and copper rule, in order to try and "sample water closer to the street," **she actually unscrewed her pipes where the water came into her home, and put the water from the unscrewed pipes into our VT sample bottle.** I then informed that unscrewing the pipes to fill them, puts lead metal into the bottle that is not normally present. And that because she unscrewed the pipes her VT sample, her result was completely invalid. She then agreed that these samples with very high lead were not obtained using the VT sampling protocol, and that her results with high lead did not represent water that her family could drink.

I am very disturbed to learn, that she is using our letter with this obviously invalid lead result, and giving it to reporters to claim that the lead in her house water is actually getting worse. While Scott Smith erred in giving her information that caused her to not follow the VT/EPA sampling instructions, she is responsible for publicly claiming that VT determined her lead in water was getting worse. That is a false statement. Now that this has been brought to my attention, I am going to write the reporter and try to get this corrected.

Just like normal science, citizen science is also based on trust-- has abused the VT sampling program to publicly draw a false conclusion. If we ever sample in Flint again, she will not be allowed to participate.

Marc: